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~~(S//NC/CIA-IUO/OC/NF)~~ **SUBJECT: COOPERATION BETWEEN THE ARMED FORCES OF EL SALVADOR AND HONDURAS ALONG THE FRONTIER AREA OF CHALATENANGO DEPARTMENT**

Central Intelligence Agency

21 March 1985

(b)(1)  
(b)(3) NatSecAct

Doc Number: [REDACTED]

(b)(3) NatSecAct

~~(S//NC/CIA-IUO/OC/NF)~~ WARNING: INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASS ~~S E C R E T--WNINTEL--NOFORN--NOCONTRACT--ORCON~~ DIST: 21 MARCH 1985 COUNTRY: EL SALVADOR/HONDURAS SUBJECT: COOPERATION BETWEEN THE ARMED FORCES OF EL SALVADOR AND HONDURAS ALONG THE FRONTIER AREA OF CHALATENANGO DEPARTMENT

SOURCE: [REDACTED]

~~(S//NC/CIA-IUO/OC/NF)~~ SERIAL: [REDACTED]

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PASS: [REDACTED]

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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DOI: [REDACTED]

SOURCE: [REDACTED]

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TEXT: 1. ON 9 MARCH 1985, ELEMENTS OF THE FOURTH INFANTRY BRIGADE LAUNCHED SWEEP OPERATIONS INTO THE "LAS PILAS" (14-22N; 89-06W) POCKET IN NORTHERN CHALATENANGO DEPARTMENT. ELEMENTS OF THE

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SEVENTH AND TWELFTH BATTALIONS OF THE ARMY OF HONDURAS PROVIDED BLOCKING FORCES ON THE HONDURAN SIDE OF THE BORDER WITH CHALATENANGO. BY 12 MARCH, ONE ELEMENT OF THE FOURTH BRIGADE HAD TURNED SOUTHEAST AND REACHED PLAN DEL HORNO DEL TRIGAL (14-14N; 8903W) WHERE CONTACT WAS MADE WITH GUERRILLAS. FOUR SOLDIERS OF THE FOURTH BRIGADE WERE WOUNDED. ON 13 MARCH ANOTHER CONTACT WAS MADE AT EL COMUN (14-12N; 89-02W), DURING WHICH ANOTHER SOLDIER WAS WOUNDED. [REDACTED] COMMENT: DURING THIS OPERATION THE GUERRILLAS DID NOT CROSS INTO HONDURAS BECAUSE OF THE PRESENCE OF HONDURAN FORCES. INSTEAD, THE GUERRILLAS MOVED PARALLEL TO THE BORDER IN A SOUTHEASTERLY DIRECTION TO ESCAPE THE FOURTH BRIGADE OPERATION.)

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COMMENT: [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] THE SALVADORAN AND HONDURAN MILITARY UNITS HAD COORDINATED THE "LAS PILAS" OPERATION AND INTENDED TO COOPERATE IN FUTURE BLOCKING OPERATIONS.)

2. TO KEEP THE GUERRILLAS IN CHALATENANGO OFF BALANCE, COLONEL SIGIFREDO ((OCHOA)) PEREZ, FOURTH BRIGADE COMMANDER, PLANNED TO LAUNCH ANOTHER OPERATION ON 16 OR 17 MARCH INTO THE AREA NORTH AND EAST OF THE CITY OF CHALATENANGO 14-02N; 88-57W). AN ELEMENT OF MILITARY DETACHMENT ONE LOCATED IN CHALATENANGO CITY WILL STRIKE NORTH THROUGH LAS VUELTAS (14-06N; 88-54W) AND OJOS DE AGUA (1408N 8852W) TO EL CARRIZAL (14-10N; 88-54W) WHERE IT WILL TURN SOUTHWEST THROUGH LA LAGUNA (14-09N; 88-57W), COMALAPA (1408N 8858W) AND CONCEPCION QUEZALTEPEQUE (14-05N; 88-57W) THEN RETURN TO BASE AT CHALATENANGO CITY. AT THE SAME TIME, THE ATLCATL IMMEDIATE REACTION BATTALION WILL STRIKE EAST OF CHALATENANGO CITY THROUGH SAN JOSE LAS FLORES (14-03N; 88-51W) AND NUEVA TRINIDAD (14-04N; 88-47W) TO ARCATAO (14-05N; 88-45W). [REDACTED] COMMENT: FOLLOWING THIS SWEEP THE ATLCATL WILL BE POSTED TO THE AREA NORTH OF CHALATENANGO CITY FOR APPROXIMATELY SIX WEEKS.)

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3. [REDACTED] FIELD [REDACTED]

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THE "LAS PILAS" AREA IS ALSO IDENTIFIED AS THE "CAYAGUANCA" AREA. BESIDES TWO COMPANIES FROM THE 7TH BATTALION AND TWO FROM THE 12TH BATTALION, ONE COMPANY FROM THE 3RD BATTALION ALSO PARTICIPATED IN THE BLOCKING FORCE OF THE HONDURAN ARMY.)

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